

REMARKS

The claims now pending in the present application are claims 1 to 6, amended as above. Claims 1, and 3-5 have been amended for greater clarity and to correct typographical errors. No new matter has been inserted.

Statement of the Invention

The invention as claimed is directed to novel epothilone derivatives, methods for the preparation of said derivatives and intermediates thereof.

Abstract:

The abstract of the disclosure has been objected to because it is too long. Applicant has submitted a new page for the Abstract. In light of the new Abstract, withdrawal of this objection is requested.

Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph:

The Office Action states that claims 1, 3-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention on the following bases:

a) "Not known what is meant by the moiety  $O_2CNR_{26}R_{27}$  in the definition of  $B_1$  and  $B_2$ ."

Applicants have amended claim 1 to clarify the moiety claimed. Withdrawal of this basis for rejection is thus respectfully requested.


b) The definition of  $R_{30}$  appears twice in claim 1.

Applicants have amended claim 1 by deleting  $R_{30}$  from line 9 of page 62. Withdrawal of this basis for rejection is thus respectfully requested.

c) The species of claim 3 in lines 26-28 of page 63 has a semi-colon followed by a close bracket.

Applicants have amended this claim by deleting the close bracket at the end of line 28. Withdrawal of this basis for rejection is thus respectfully requested.

d) The species of claim 3 in lines 14-16 of page 64 is missing an open bracket. Applicants have amended this claim by inserting an open bracket at the beginning of line 14. Withdrawal of this basis for rejection is thus respectfully requested.



e) The species of claim 3 in lines 22-24 of page 65 has a semi-colon followed by a close bracket.

Applicants have amended this claim by deleting the close bracket at the end of line 24. Withdrawal of this basis for rejection is thus respectfully requested.

f) The species of claim 3 in lines 9-10, 12-14, and 16-18 have a period after each species rather than a semi-colon.

Applicants have amended these species by deleting the period and inserting a semi-colon at the ends of lines 10, 14 and 18. Withdrawal of this basis for rejection is thus respectfully requested.

g) Claims 4 and 5 are unclear as to subjects in need of method of treatment. Applicants have amended claims 4 and 5 to indicate that the method of treating comprising providing an effective amount of a compound of claim 1 is for patients in need of such treatment. Withdrawal of this basis for rejection is thus respectfully requested.

Claim Objections:

Claims 2 and 6 were objected to because they depended from a claim that had been rejected. In view of the claim amendments made herein, applicants respectfully request that this objection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

For all of these reasons, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections and rejections. Applicants believe that in view of the amendments made, the claims are now in position for allowance.

If any fee is due in connection herewith, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 19-3880 of the undersigned. Also, if any extension of time is required not already accounted for, such extension is hereby petitioned for, and it is requested that any fee due for said extension be charged to the above stated account number.

Respectfully submitted,



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